

Lemee House  
308 Jefferson St.  
Natchitoches, La.

HABS No. LA-2-193

HABS

LA

35-NATCH

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PHOTOGRAPHS  
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA  
District of North Louisiana

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY  
CENTRAL UNIT—ST. LOUIS

Historic American Buildings Survey  
Clarence W. King, District Officer  
1029 Dalzell St., Shreveport, La.

## LEMEE HOUSE

309 Jefferson St., Natchitoches, Louisiana.

Physical Data

Present owner: William White. City of Natchitoches has agreement to purchase it as a museum.

Present use: Residence - rented.

Description (present condition)

Wall construction: Brick, front stuccoed, sides painted white.

Size and form: 48'0" x 46'1 $\frac{1}{2}$ "; lower story and unfinished attic; one dormer on front and back.

Number stories: 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ .

Front porch: none.

Rear porch: Originally paved with brick, now 2 x 8 joist - 3'0" o.c., and 1 x 4 pine flooring on top of brick pavement in central portion.

Exterior openings, windows: Shutters, and plain double hung rail sash.

Exterior openings, doors: Side and back, shutters; front, glazed double doors, no shutters.

Cornice: Moulded brick painted on sides and back, stuccoed on front.

Roofing: Slate, blue and green, on sheathing, regular lap.

Chimneys: Brick.

Interior

Floors: 1 x 5 $\frac{1}{2}$  to 6 $\frac{3}{4}$ " pine.

Doors: 3 cross panels at top, 2 vertical panels at bottom.

Trim: Simple moulded, mitered corners.

Mantels: Wood, bolection mould at hall, plaster on brick at corner mantels.

Stairways: Wood, outside on rear porch.

Plasterwork: Front of outside, inside, and partition walls plastered.

Additions and alterations: Room on left side of hall seems to have been added later.

Outbuildings: Frame garage, built later.

#### Historical Data

Year of erection: About 1830.

Built for (first owner): Lemee (first name not available).

Architect or designer: Triscini & Soldini.

Built by: Triscini & Soldini.

Original intended use: Residence.

Notable events and occupants:

One of the sons of Lemee married a Morse who was related to S. F. B. Morse, the inventor of the telegraph. A Lemee was in charge of the trade with "The Kichai" tribe and is listed as one of the "notables present" when a treaty of peace was signed with the Indians on October 27, 1771.

The architects and builders of this house were Triscini & Soldini, a construction firm responsible for the construction of many buildings in the vicinity of Natchitoches, La. Triscini, the head of the firm, was a Swiss-Italian architect who came from Italy. Soldini was his foreman over eleven brickmasons and artisans, all of whom Triscini brought from Italy with him about 1830.

Reference: Historic Natchitoches, by J. E. Guardia, 1936.

Prepared by Wilfred R. Van Valkenburgh, August 30, 1940  
Wilfred R. Van Valkenburgh,  
Junior Architect, Central Unit,  
Historic American Buildings Survey.

Approved: Clarence W. ...  
District Officer

Date Dec. 12, 1940

ADDENDUM TO:  
LEMEE HOUSE  
Cane River National Heritage Area Commission  
310 Jefferson Street  
Natchitoches  
Natchitoches Parish  
Louisiana

HABS No. LA-2-193  
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PHOTOGRAPHS

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY  
National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
1849 C St. NW  
Washington, DC 20240